

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph that begins on Page 18, line 18 and carries over to Page 19, line 14 with the following marked-up replacement paragraph:

– Optionally, a hierarchical approach may be used for the actions to be taken for time-sensitive messages and/or events. For example, if a time-sensitive e-mail message indicates that 1 hour remains before the end of the time-sensitivity period, the recipient's e-mail system may be opened and the message displayed, as stated above, whereas if only 30 minutes remain, then a more immediate type of action may be taken, such as flashing the frame of the e-mail window and if only 15 minutes remain, an alarm feature of the recipient's computer might be activated to provide an audible sound. If a hierarchy of stored events about the e-mail recipient or calendar owner's current status is available, such as that disclosed in U. S. Patent _____ (serial Patent 6,988,128 (serial number 09/670,844, filed 09/27/2000), which is titled "Calendar Events and Calendar-Driven Application Technique" and which is discussed in more detail below, then the automated actions that may be taken include: obtaining a pager number where this individual can be reached and sending a page to that number; obtaining a telephone number of an alternate contact and generating an automated telephone call to that number; obtaining a cell phone number where this individual can be reached and generating an automated cell phone call to that number; determining an instant messaging identifier or "ID" where this individual may be receiving instant messages, and generating an automated notification message to that ID; and so forth. (Refer to this U. S. Patent for more information on how the hierarchy of stored events is processed to determine an individual's current means of being contacted.) --

Please replace the paragraph that begins on Page 25, line 18 and carries over to Page 26, line 16 with the following marked-up replacement paragraph:

-- Commonly-assigned U. S. Patent _____ (serial Patent 6,988,128 (serial number 09/670,844, filed 09/27/2000), which is titled "Calendar Events and Calendar-Driven Application Technique", discloses techniques whereby information about an electronic calendar user can be made automatically available to others. This information includes whether the calendar user checks his e-mail, and how often he checks it, for various types of status events pertaining to the calendar. For example, if the calendar user's current status (as determined from his calendar) shows that he is away from the office, the information provided according to this invention may indicate whether he checks e-mail while he is away from the office. Commonly-assigned U. S. Patent 6,640,230 (serial number 09/671,001, filed 09/27/2000), which is titled "Calendar-Driven Application Technique for Preparing Responses to Incoming Events" is related, and discloses techniques whereby status information can be determined from the user's calendar in advance of receiving incoming events (such as incoming e-mail, voice calls, instant messages, etc.), and used to prepare customized responses which supply information pertaining to the user. The information from this analysis is stored, and can then be used to quickly generate a response when a message does arrive. While these inventions enable a message sender to obtain some information, this information is directed toward whether the user is likely to be using e-mail; the sender still has no more control over the recipient's handling of incoming e-mail messages than in other prior art e-mail systems which have already been discussed. These inventions therefore do not teach the inventive concepts disclosed herein. --